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ABSTRACT

A program which recognizes oustanding scholastic achievement of students in grades 4-8 is described. The program is financed by contributions from local businesses. An overview of the program provides details on the successful efforts to obtain business sponsors along with a letter which solicits contributions and a program sponsor form. A booklet from the 1983 awards ceremony is included which lists the winners and the criteria for selecting winners in the following categories: reading, mathematics, writing, speech, music, gifted and talented education, patriotic essays, and special awards. Presenters of the awards and program sponsors are also listed in the booklet. This document was selected by the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Task Force on Public Confidence as descriptive of a promising practice or exemplary project worthy of highlighting for the California educational community. (DC)

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ED239342

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

Oxnard School District

Oxnard, California

This document was selected by the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Task Force on Public Confidence as descriptive of a promising practice or exemplary project worthy of highlighting for the California educational community.

EA015983

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OUTSTANDING PROGRAM DESCRIPTION FORM

Name of School, District or Agency Oxnard Elementary School District Grade Levels Pre-K, K - 8

Address 831 South "B" Street Telephone (805) 487-3918, ext. 294

City Oxnard State CA Zip 93030

Name of Contact Person Dr. Fernando R. Elizondo ACSA Region 13

Name of Course, Program, Project or Policy Awards of Excellence Program

Date of Operation of Program or Project Year Round

In 300 words or less please describe your program specifically enough for others to follow. Please include your program's
(1) primary purpose (how it benefits students)
(2) participants (grade levels of students, professional staff, community persons, etc)
(3) evaluation data (if available)

The Oxnard School District, for the past three years, has endorsed a year-long academic Awards of Excellence Program which recognizes children in grades four through eight for excellence in various scholastic areas. The oustanding students are presented with Certificates of Achievement at regularly scheduled Board of Trustee meetings with the program culminating in a District-wide Awards of Excellence Ceremony in May of each year.

The Awards of Excellence Ceremony is attended by city, county, and state officials who actively participate in the ceremony and present awards to these outstanding students. An equally important aspect of the program is the partnership which has been formed with the City of Oxnard business community.

Solicitation letters, a copy of which is enclosed, are sent to all members of the greater Oxnard Chamber of Commerce. In 1983 our goal was $1,275 and was reached through various donations from Oxnard merchants. Our goal in 1984 is $1,325 and to date the business community has contributed $2,195. At the Awards of Excellence Ceremony, each contributor will be presented with a framed Certificate of Appreciation by our Superintendent, Mr. Norman Brekke, in recognition of their support. The names of the contributors are also placed in our program for additional public relations and publicity.

The increased support from 1983 to 1984 shows that our initial concept of formulating a partnership with the business community is increasing and will continue to expand in its support of our public school system. The funds that have been donated will be used to purchase the actual awards given to the outstanding District scholars. Additionally, this year our District also received a request from a large shopping center in Oxnard to assist and participate in our program. A local restaurant has also volunteered to supply the refreshments for the Awards Ceremony in May.

Lastly, the names of the businesses that contributed financially to this program will be listed in our local newspaper on the same day our Awards of Excellence Program is publicized. This will also act to strengthen this partnership between the District and the business community.

Permission to reproduce this program description and accompanying materials (if any) is granted to ERIC (Educational Resources Information Center).

NAME Fernando R Elizondo DATE Dec. 27, 1983

Enclose supporting or descriptive materials and return to ACSA Public Confidence Task Force, Public Relations Department, 1517 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

OXNARD SCHOOL DISTRICT

831 SOUTH "B" STREET • OXNARD, CALIFORNIA 93030 • 805/487-3918

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION STEERING COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP

ODESSA NEWMAN
School District Trustee
JEAN HARRIS
Community Representative
CHARLES JOHNSON
President, PTA Council
ANNA JOHS
Business Representative
AL LOPEZ
President, Mexican/American
Chamber of Commerce
REV. RICHARD O. PARKS
Minister
GEORGE LAUTERBACH
Business Representative
DR. FERNANDO R. ELIZONDO
District Official

The Oxnard School District is continuing its efforts to recognize students in grades four through eight who have achieved *academic excellence*. The District is embarking on its third consecutive year of publicly recognizing youngsters who have been identified as the District's top academic scholars.

This year, the Oxnard School District Educational Foundation Steering Committee is involved as a conduit in seeking the assistance of interested citizens and/or businesses in our community in co-sponsoring this event with the Oxnard School District. The individuals and/or businesses listed in this letter are those who contributed to the 1983 Awards of Excellence Program. *We met our goal in 1983 and have established a goal of $1,325 for 1984.*

Letter continued on next page

1983 COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTORS

Barclay's Bank of California
Dr. Sorrell Berman
James L. Brock Associates
Bulldog Battery Company
Casa Via Mar Inn &
Tennis Club
CBS/Sony California, Inc.
Dr. Gordon Cruickshank
Freight Container Corporation
Jacobson Realty Inc.
Johnson's Television, Inc.
Jones Intercable/Cable Television
Dr. & Mrs. Mark Lisagor
Maron Litho, Inc.
Marv's Tires
Merle Norman Cosmetics
& Lady G Lingerie
Otani Fish Market
Oxnard Auto Electric Co.
Oxnard Chamber of Commerce
Women's Division
Oxnard Educators Association
Oxnard Elks Lodge #1443
Oxnard Plumbing & Heating
Oxnard School District
Management Team
Realestators
Shearson American Express
The Asahi Company
The Originators, Inc.
The Press-Courier
Valley Federal Savings
Lois & Angus Weatherhead

Your financial contribution will assist in the increased costs for the publication of our program as well as purchasing additional medals, trophies, and certificates for those students who are the recipients of these scholastic achievement awards.

The culmination of a year-long effort by students will be highlighted at a special Awards of Excellence Ceremony on May 24, 1984, at Fremont School. At this ceremony, the District's top scholars and their parents will be honored and recognized. Many local and county officials will be present to share in this prestigious evening of recognition. As a contributor to the Oxnard School District's scholastic awards program, you will be honored by having your name printed in the program as well as being publicly recognized.

We recognize *our community has pride* in the accomplishment of students who have achieved at the highest level of academic excellence and we solicit your support of this fine activity. As a sponsor, you will share in a *partnership* which will serve as an example for all of the youngsters in our District to strive for *academic excellence*.

Please take a minute to complete the enclosed pledge envelope and return it with *your contribution*. If you have any questions or require additional information regarding how you can become an Oxnard School District Academic Awards sponsor, please call me at 487-3918, extension 294.

Sincerely,

Dr. Fernando R. Elizondo
Director of Compensatory Education
and Special Projects

"EDUCATION IS THE ENTERPRISE THAT IS CRUCIAL TO SUCCESS IN EVERYTHING WE ATTEMPT AS A NATION"

OXNARD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Awards of Excellence

PROGRAM SPONSOR FORM

Please include me as an Enthusiastic Sponsor of the Oxnard School District's AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

NAME _____

(Please print name as you would like it to appear in program)

ADDRESS & PHONE _____

_____

AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED*
(Make payable to Oxnard School District)

*This is a tax deductible contribution

DETACH ENVELOPE BY TEARING ALONG PERFORATION

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE
OXNARD SCHOOL DISTRICT
831 SOUTH B STREET
OXNARD, CA 93030

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

OXNARD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Dr. Fernando Elizondo
Awards of Excellence
831 South 'B' Street
Oxnard, Ca 93030

1983

ACADEMIC

ACHIEVEMENT

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

May 26, 1983

7:00 p.m.

FREMONT AUDITORIUM

1130 North "M" Street

Oxnard, California

XNARD SCHOOL DISTRICT

831 SOUTH "B" STREET • OXNARD, CALIFORNIA 93030 • 805/487-3918

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Mrs. Odessa R. Newman
President, Board of Trustees
Oxnard School District

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the staff of the Oxnard School District, I want to welcome you to our 1983 Awards of Excellence Ceremony. This awards ceremony is the Oxnard School District's continuing effort to recognize and reward those students who have achieved the highest level of excellence in various areas of academic study.

Our Board realizes a commitment to excellence, without appropriate and deserved commendation, is hollow. These austere times demand a special declaration which recognizes scholastic excellence. This public declaration of academic excellence for our students provides for individual student recognition, provides recognition of achievement, develops esteem, and serves to renew and acknowledges the outstanding efforts of our students, as well as our professional staff.

The Oxnard School District's 1982-83 scholars have attained success in school level competitions which have demonstrated top honors in the basic skills, including special talent and accomplishment in music and speech.

We commend these students for their efforts, the parents who have encouraged them, and the teachers who have provided an environment which nurtures such academic excellence.

Our Academic Awards Ceremony is presented in the spirit of noted educator, John Gardner's words:

> "Society is bettered not only by those who excel, but by each person striving for excellence."

The Board of Trustees of the
Oxnard School District

Odessa R. Newman
Jan T. Tarter
Kathleen S. Riggs
William E. Kvistgaard
James V. Allende

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Introductory Comments

- Dr. John Marshall — Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

Musical Program

- Mrs. Martina McRae — Vocal Music Instructor, Fremont School
- Mrs. Nancy Steel — Instrumental Music Instructor, Fremont School

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Welcome and Introduction of Board of Trustees and Distinguished Guests

- Mr. James V. Gallardo — Member, Board of Trustees, Oxnard School District

Welcome and Recognition of Program Sponsors

- Mr. Norman Brekke — Superintendent, Oxnard School District

Welcome on Behalf of the Board of Trustees

- Ms. Odessa Newman — President, Board of Trustees, Oxnard School District

Opening Comments By Master of Ceremonies

- The Honorable Gary K. Hart — 18th Senate District

Presentation of Awards

Reading

- Presenter: Mrs. Kathleen S. Riggs — Member, Board of Trustees
  - Introduction of Board Level Winners

Mathematics

- Presenter: Mr. James V. Gallardo — Member, Board of Trustees
  - Introduction of Committee and Board Level Winners

Writing

- Presenter: Mr. Jack T. Fowler — Clerk, Board of Trustees
  - Introduction of Committee and Board Level Winners

Speech

- Presenter: Mr. Wilbur Daniel — Oxnard Early Bird Toastmasters Club
  - Introduction of Committee and Board Level Winners
  - Presentation of Winning Speech — 7th Grade
  - Presentation of Winning Speech — 8th Grade

Connor-Lewellyn Memorial Scholarship

- Presenter: Mrs. Caroline Rodriguez — Member, Board of Trustees
  - Introduction of Committee and Board Level Winners

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services — Gifted And Talented Education (GATE)

- Presenter: Dr. John Marshall — Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services
  - Introduction of GATE Consultant — Mrs. Susan Arnold

Patriotic Essay

- Presenter: Mr. Tom Roberts — Editor, Oxnard Press — Courier
  - Introduction of Committee, Panel of Judges, Blue Ribbon Committee, and Board Level Winners

Superintendent's Award

- Presenter: Mr. Norman Brekke — Superintendent, Oxnard School District

Board President's Award

- Presenter: Ms. Odessa Newman — President, Board of Trustees, Oxnard School District

Intermediate School Awards

- Presenter: The Honorable Nao Takasugi — Mayor, City of Oxnard

Closing Comments

- Mr. Norman Brekke — Superintendent, Oxnard School District

Reception

Reading Award Winners

Henry Serate — 4th
McKinna School

Amador Canlas — 5th
Sierra Linda School

Martin Lugo — 5th
Harrington School

Andrea Garcia — 6th
Rose Avenue School

Tracey Rembert 6th
Rose Avenue School

Josette Shuey — 6th
Kamala School

Nicholas Smith — 6th
Curren School

Elizabeth Dunham — 7th
Fremont School

Karine Agopian — 8th
Fremont School

Tim Frobisher
GATE 4-6
Sierra Linda School

Lillian Gonzalez
GATE 7-8
Haydock School

Criteria for Reading Award

Awards are presented to the most outstanding students in grades four through eight who have passed the District's Reading Proficiency Test and have the highest scores on the reading section of the Comprehensive Tests of Basic Skills.

Presenter

Mrs. Kathleen Riggs
Member
Board of Trustees
Oxnard School District

Mathematics Award Winners

Michelle Wheeler — 4th
Kamala School

Trang Hoang — 5th
Kamala School

Paula Bess — 6th
Rose Avenue

Jay Tayag — 7th
Haydock School

Gerard Hall — 8th
Haydock School

Melissa Yeto
GATE 4-6
Sierra Linda

Sandhya Bhalla
GATE 7-8
Haydock School

Criteria for Mathematics Award

Awards are presented to students in grades four through eight who have passed the District's Proficiency Test in Mathematics as well as winning their individual school's mathematics competition. These winners then competed in a District-wide mathematics contest for the selection of the top winner in each grade level.

Presenter

Mr. James V. Gallardo
Member
Board of Trustees
Oxnard School District

District Mathematics Task Force

Mrs. Janelle Fanslow, Teacher, Rose Avenue School
Mrs. Marilyn Eissler, Teacher, Rose Avenue School
Mrs. Connie Hershkowitz, Program Coordinator, Rose Avenue School
Mr. Bob Franklin, Teacher, Haydock School
Mrs. Barbara McFayden, Teacher, Fremont School
Mr. Edmundo Chavez, Learning Director, Haydock School
Mr. Tony Zubia, Learning Director, Fremont School

Writing Award Winners

Maria Lopez — 4th
Curren School

Janet Wenn — 5th
Curren School

Coralie Hillemann — 6th
Curren School

Elizabeth Guerrero — 7th
Haydock School

Onnaca Ann Heron — 8th
Fremont School

Llesena Ontiveras
GATE 4-6
Sierra Linda School

Deana Smith
GATE 7-8
Fremont School

Criteria for Writing Award

Writing Awards are presented to the outstanding students in grades four through eight who have passed the District's Proficiency Test in Writing and Paragraph Composition, and who have achieved a "high" rating on a special writing assignment.

Presenter

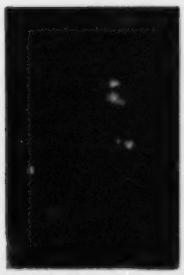
Mr. Jack T. Fowler
Clerk
Board of Trustees
Oxnard School District

District Writing Committee

Mrs. Willa Brock, Teacher, Curren School
Ms. Cynthia Toy, GATE Teacher, Sierra Linda School
Ms. Jamie French, Teacher, Haydock School
Ms. Ashley Hayden, Teacher, Rose Avenue School
Mrs. Diana Hancock, Learning Director, Fremont School
Dr. Joan Cole, Learning Director, Haydock School

Speech Award Winners

Leilani Johnson — 7th
Haydock School



Amelie Voorhies — 8th
Fremont School

Criteria for Speech Award

This competition was open to all seventh and eighth grade students. Participants prepared an original five to seven minute speech. The two seventh grade winners and the two eighth grade winners then competed in a "speak-off" to select the top winner at each of our two Junior High Schools.

Presenter

Mr. Wilbur Daniel
Toastmaster
Oxnard Early Bird Toastmasters Club

District Speech Committee

Dr. Joan Cole, Learning Director, Haydock School
Mr. Ernie Morrison, Learning Director, Fremont School
Mr. Peter Nichols, Learning Director, Fremont School
Mr. Wilbur Daniel, Toastmaster, Oxnard Early Bird Toastmasters Club
Mr. Ron Adams, Teacher, Fremont School
Ms. Theresa Escareno, Teacher, Fremont School
Mrs. Carolyn White, Teacher, Haydock School
Mrs. Lura Taylor, Teacher, Haydock School

Music Award Winner

Bradley Schuler — 8th
Fremont School

Music in My Life

Music in my life is wonderful. It gives me a push up when I'm down and keeps me up. Music is like the key to life. If I didn't have music, it would be as if I were deaf. It is what gives me an opportunity to express my feelings when I play it and to hear feelings of others who make music. Music gives me a wonderful sensation all through my body. It feels great to hear all the sounds of life and happiness in music. Music enables me to hear all the sounds and feelings of different moods. Slow music makes me relax and when I'm sad it feels the same way and makes me realize there are better things to do than feel sad. Fast music makes me feel better when I'm down and gives me an energetic feeling all through my body that makes me feel great and keeps me going.

When I play a very dramatic, energetic, and loud song it gives me a tingling sensation that feels great and makes me want to keep on playing forever. It feels great, like it's the key to keeping alive and human. When I play a slow song it makes me relax and feel tired, but great all over.

Music is the main thing that keeps me from going insane from all the rush and work and worries of life.

Without music life would be deafening. It would become like a zombie and not have any feelings of joy. Life would be a group of living dead people.

Music is what holds my heart together, along with my mind. Music gives me feelings of joy and happiness all through my body. I probably couldn't live without music. I think life would be like after a nuclear war if there was no music.

Criteria for Music Award
Connor-Lewellyn Memorial Scholarship

Students in grades four through eight, who participated in our Instrumental Music Program, prepared a two-page essay entitled, "Music in My Life". The most outstanding essay from each grade level was then selected and the top winner chosen from among those finalists.

Presenter

Mrs. Caroline Rodriguez
Member
Board of Trustees
Oxnard School District

District Music Committee

Mr. Larry Boeing, Instrumental Music Teacher, District Office
Mr. Charles Butler, Instrumental Music Teacher, Haydock School
Mrs. Nancy Steel, Instrumental Music Teacher, Fremont School

Board Level Awards C

School	Grade	Reading	Mathematics
Curren	4	William Terry	Edgar Mendez
	5	Spencer Nyholm	Spencer Nyholm
	6	Nicholas Smith	Jeremy Landau
Driffill	4	Amy Szecsei	Amy Szecsei
	4		
	5	Scott Shank	Jose Garcia
	5	Teresa Sligar	
	6	Kristine Smith	Marco Ordonez
Elm	4	Seuga Tauau	Seuga Tauau
	5	Olga Cobos	Olga Cobos
	6	Heather Bonnar	James Knoebber
Fremont	7	*Chris Willingham	*Chris Willingham
	7	Elizabeth Dunham	Melissa Dalton
	8	Karine Agopian	*Robert Tan
	8	*Deana Smith	Steven Willis
Harrington	4	Sarah Brooks	Don Philip Ajero
	5	Martin Lugo	Oanh Tran
	6	Brian Kobashigawa	Ernesto Moreno
Haydock	7	Ramona Hernandez	Jay Tayag
	7	*Lillian Gonzalez	*Julie Harbold
	8	Scott Robinson	Gerard Hall
	8	*Douglas Smith	*Leo Creger
	8		*Sandhya Bhalla
Kamala	4	Michelle Wheeler	Michelle Wheeler
	5	Suzanne Shirar	Trang Hoang
	6	Josette Shuey	Joey Fontanes
Lemonwood	4	Florine Flores	Veneshiene Ventura
McKinna	4	Henry Serate	Gabriela Ramos
	5	Jamie Franklin	Christopher Catabona
	5		Gilbert Rodriguez
	6	Lana Holt	Jose Amaro, Jr.
Rose Avenue	4	Charles Reese	Julianne Delaway
	5	Kathleen Cahoon	Martha Corona
	6	Andrea Garcia	Paula Bess
	6	Tracey Rembert	
Sierra Linda	4	Aimee Canlas	Jenny Lyons
	4	*Tony Phoenix	
	5	Amador Canlas	Amador Canlas
	5	*Brian Matthews	*Kristina Johnson
	5		*Enny Joo
	6	Stephanie Grob	*Melissa Yeto
	6	*Stephen Matthews	Tamera Brown
	6	*Tim Frobisher	*Chris Stiggers

f Excellence Winners

Writing	Patriotic Essay	Music	Speech
Maria Lopez	Tom Taylor	Candice Peterson	
Janet Wenn	Spencer Nyholm		
Coralie Hillemann	Sean Morris		
Tanya Alvarez	Orlando Moncada		
Robert Fenlon			
Lisa Bodwell	Micky Moull		
Marco Ordonez	Kristine Smith		
Ann Marie Lung	Seuga Tauau		
Christina Duran	Christina Duran		
Scott Johnson	Eric David		
Tracey Cronin	Ramon Cazares	*Kasia Tarazon	
*David Cotner			Paula Berdechowski
Onnaca Ann Heron	Heidi Polenz	*Bradley Schuler	
*Deana Smith			Amelie Voorhies
Sarah Brooks	Gloria Rodriguez		
Julie Moye	Kristina Sturm		
Jessica Dalton	Alison Callahan		
Elizabeth Guerrero	Gerra Casunuran		
*Julie Harbold		Christine Johnson	Leilani Johnson
Dana Martin	Alma Navarro		
*Dawn Callahan			Sabrina Blaisdell
Michelle Wheeler	Regina Borelli		
Joe Jacquez	Rebecca Merritt		
Gina Nasca	Robert Paguio		
Rogelio Lara	Christina Stretch		
Melanie Papp	Amy Calderon		
Patricia Viveros	Carrie Brower		
Agueda Hernandez	Joel Gonzales		
Sara Reyes	David Mejia		
Gina Garubo	Pamela Wendling		
Alisa Juarez	Amaranthe Wolff		
Ricardo Mora	Kamra Ming	*Melanie Casso	
*Michael Brackrog			
Maria Angeles	*Enny Joo	*Enny Joo	
*Llesena Ontiveras			
Kristen Mayer	*Keith Cody	*Stephen Matthews	
*Liberty Vinzon			

*GATE Student

Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services — GATE Award Winners

Stephen Matthews
GATE 4-6
Sierra Linda School

Anna Cabrera
GATE 7-8
Haydock School

Robert Tan
GATE 7-8
Fremont School

*Criteria for Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services — **G**ifted **A**nd **T**alented **E**ducation (GATE) Award*

This award is presented to the overall outstanding student in the District's Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Program. The decision was based on test scores and overall classroom performance.

Presenter

Dr. John Marshall
Assistant Superintendent
of Educational Services

GATE Consultant

Mrs. Susan Arnold

Patriotic Essay Award Winners

Enny Joo — 5th
Sierra Linda School

Ramon Cazares — 7th
Fremont School

What Does A Government "Of the People, By the People" Mean To You?

Enny Joo
5th Grade — Sierra Linda School

A government "of the people, by the people, for the people" means three major things to me. To me, "of the people" means the government is made up of people, "by the people" means the government is run by the people, and "for the people" means the government taxes for our protection and enjoyment.

First of all, "of the people" means the government is made up of people. People who have the right to speak freely, people who can do as they wish, but must accept the consequences if they do wrong, because all men are created equal.

Secondly, "by the people" means the government is run by the people. We elected citizens among us to lead us through defeat as well as victory. The citizens also have a say about the government while the citizens in other countries can't say anything about theirs.

Finally, "for the people" means the leaders of the government tax the citizens for their protection or enjoyment. The government taxes us, for if we didn't have defenses in a war, we would surely be defeated. They also tax us to create parks and zoos for our enjoyment.

Therefore a government "of the people, by the people, for the people", means the government taxes for our protection and enjoyment, the government is run by the people, and government is made up of people.

Our United States Constitution — What It Means To Our Country

Ramon Cazares
7th Grade — Fremont Junior High

The Constitution is the strength of our country and what pulls it together. If it wasn't for the Constitution our country could very well be several little countries. We had had an example when our own southeastern states wanted to become a separate country. The freedom of the slaves, and rights of states was the issue. Our Constitution, Article 4, section 3, clause 1, and Amendment 13, section 1-2 (adopted in 1865) clearly speaks to these issues.

"New states may be admitted by Congress into this Nation; but no new state shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other state, nor any state be formed by the junction of two or more states, or parts of states without the consent of the Legislature of the states concerned as well as of the Congress."

Amendment 13, section 1 and 2, section a: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to jurisdiction."

Section 2: "Congress shall have power by appropriate legislation to enforce the provisions of this article." So you see, the Constitution of the United States means a lot to you and me.

As well as Article 4 and Amendment 13, there are many more articles and amendments such as the Bill of Rights which make up parts of the Constitution of the United States.

The articles clearly state what the government can do to and for the people. Now, the Amendments (or the Bill of Rights) clearly state your rights as a citizen or immigrant, but most important, it gives you the right to vote for what you believe is right in the United States.

I as a citizen of the United States, believe that some of the most important parts of the Constitution are (although the whole Constitution is) my right to choose my religion and freedom of speech; the right to get a free education; the right to vote when I'm 18 years of age; the right to serve my country in the armed forces, and also to get a fair trial in court no matter what my level in society may be.

These were a few articles and amendments that I thought and think are important to me and what the Constitution means to me. If I was to speak for the people of the United States, those would be my very same thoughts to represent what the Constitution means to the people of the United States of America.

The Constitution is like the heart of America which works similar to that of human beings. The human being can't live without a heart, and the United States can't work or live without the Constitution. Besides, that's what has kept this great American Melting Pot alive!

Criteria for Patriotic Essay Award

All fourth through eighth grade students were eligible to participate. Students in grades four, five, and six wrote an essay on either, "What Does A Government "Of the People, By the People, For the People' Mean To You?" or, "What Does This Mean To You? 'America, Land of Many Faces and Different People'?" Students in grades seven and eight prepared an essay on, "Our Unites States Constitution — What It Means To Our Country". The outstanding essays were selected from each grade level by a panel of judges. A Blue Ribbon Committee then selected the award winners from among these essays.

Presenter

Mr. Tom Roberts
Editor
Oxnard Press-Courier

Panel of Judges

Mr. Thomas D. Ragan, Assistant Principal, Instruction
Rio Mesa High School
Mrs. Terri Taylor, English Department Chairperson
Hueneme High School
Mrs. Joanne Black, English Department Chairperson
Channel Islands High School

Blue Ribbon Committee

Mr. Tom Roberts, Editor
Oxnard Press-Courier
Mrs. Adaline Lee Downey, Representative
League of Women Voters
Mr. Floyd Beller, Adviser to Executive Board
Phi Delta Kappa
Mr. George Anderjack, Director
Ventura County Historical Society
Mr. Tom Sawyer, Executive Vice President
Oxnard Chamber of Commerce

Superintendent's Award Winner

Tracey Rembert — 6th
Rose Avenue School

Criteria for Superintendent's Award

This award is sponsored by the Oxnard School District Management Team to the sixth grade student who has competed and scored at the highest overall level in both reading and mathematics.

Presenter

Mr. Norman R. Brekke
Superintendent
Oxnard School District

Board President's Award Winner

Bradley Schuler
GATE 8
Fremont School

Criteria for Board President's Award

This award is presented to the eighth grade student who has competed and scored at the highest overall level in both reading and mathematics.

Presenter

Ms. Odessa Newman
President
Board of Trustees
Oxnard School District

Intermediate School Award Winners

Fremont School — Virginia Zak Award

Onnaca Ann Heron — 8
Fremont School

Haydock School — Cullen Watkins Award

Minerva Hinahon — 8
Haydock School

Criteria for Intermediate School Awards

Fremont School's Virginia Zak Award and the Cullen Watkins Award at Haydock School is presented to the eighth grade student at each school who is selected from the top five students based on the most recent "rank in class" rating. This rating is a composite of all grades and is issued on a quarterly basis. In addition to using academic growth and excellence, the intermediate school staff may use citizenship, school service, and participation in school activities as criteria for the final selection.

Presenter

The Honorable Nao Takasugi
Mayor
City of Oxnard

Acknowledgements

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